

CENTRAL WOOD SUPERFUND SITE

East Feliciana Parish, Louisiana

EPA REGION 6
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 6

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Updated: January 2012

(Note: This Site has been deleted from the NPL and this Fact Sheet will be updated annually.)

Background

The Central Wood Preserving Company Superfund Site (Site) is located at 10145 Highway 959, Slaughter, East Feliciana Parish, Louisiana. The Site is in an unincorporated area in the southern portion of the parish approximately 25 miles north of Baton Rouge. The site is situated north and south of State Highway (SH) 959, about one mile east of Highway 67.

The site consists of two distinct properties. The property on the north side of SH 959 ("North Property") was used as the main wood treatment process area, and the property on the south side of SH 959 ("South Property") was operated as a raw lumber saw mill. The wood treatment process area on the North Property originally included 10 above-ground storage tanks/pressure vessels, 12 on-site buildings, and a concrete-lined containment basin, some of which were removed during the removal action. The combined acreage of the North Property (10.03 acres) and South Property (7.05 acres) is approximately 17.08 acres. A creek is located along the eastsoutheast side of both properties.



The facility operated from the 1950s to January 1, 1973, as Central Creosoting Company, Incorporated. During that time, creosote was used exclusively as the wood preservative. On January 3, 1973, the facility was sold and the facility began operating under the name Central Wood Preserving Company, Incorporated. At that time, the use of creosote was discontinued, and wood preserving from that time onward was accomplished with Wolmanac, (copper chromated arsenic or CCA). During the facility's operation, treated wood was distributed throughout the property for drying. The Central Wood Preserving Company filed for bankruptcy in 1991 and ceased operations the same year. Subsequent to the conclusion of the wood treating activities, the property was reportedly leased for lumber storage purposes.

Contamination at the site occurred as the result of approximately 40 years of wood preserving operations with a lack of effective containment practices, and routine spills of creosote and CCA. The contaminants of concern are Arsenic, copper, chromium and creosote.

Although predominantly rural, residential land use in the area is increasing. As of 2001, it was estimated that approximately 140 people lived within one mile of the site. Two older residences, both occupied, are located within 350 feet of the west property boundary (north side of SH 959). Approximately 15

residences are located on the east side of Mill Lane North, a street which runs along the east side of the property north of SH 959; some of these residences may be duplexes, and some appear to be unoccupied

A Time-Critical Removal Action in 1995 addressed source control at the site. Several site structures, tank contents, and an area of contaminated surface soil near the main facility operations area (about 1,250 cubic yards [CY]) were removed from the site. The containment basin contents were also removed and the basin sandblasted and backfilled with soil. Currently, there is a six foot high chain link fence, with locked gates, along SH 959 for both the North and South Properties; this restricts access to vehicular traffic.

The site was added to the NPL in May 1999 and EPA issued the ROD for the RA on April 5, 2001. The four major components of the selected remedy for soils/sediments included: the excavation of surface/near-surface soil/sediment that exceed RGs, Thermal Desorption of excavated soil/sediment that exceeds LDRs, disposal of excavated soil/sediment, and backfilling and re-vegetation. In addition to these components for soils remediation, the site would also require inspection prior to the completion of the remedial action and site deletion, ground water monitoring, and Institutional Controls/Deed Restrictions

Current Status

- Central Wood Preserving Company Superfund Site was deleted from the National Priorities List (NPL) using the direct final deletion process on September 18, 2009. On July 20, 2009, EPA published a notice in the Federal Register for deletion of the Site from the NPL (74 FR 35126). The direct final deletion process combines the deletion notice with the request for comments. The deletion became final sixty days after publication of the notice since no comments were received.
- The first Five-Year Review for the site began on December 1, 2008, with an inspection of the site. The Five Year Review was completed on April 21, 2009. The remedy was determined to be protective in the short term to human health and the environment. One issue was identified during the review. The parish is staging brush and tree debris from Hurricane Katrina damage; however, it appears that a small amount of household waste/debris and treated wood timbers have been placed illegally on the site. Illegal disposal may affect the future protectiveness of the site. LDEQ determined that the household waste/debris and treated wood timbers were removed for proper disposal as of November 2011.



Benefits

The completion of the cleanup in 2004 reduces human health and ecological risks and allows for reuse of the property. The East Feliciana Police Jury filed a Conveyance Notification in August 2005 that will control future land use of the site and allows for residential use.

A removal action in 1995 eliminated immediate risks from above ground tanks and associated hazardous contents and overall addressed the short-term risks of an acute nature.

National Priorities Listing (NPL) History

Proposed Date: 1/19/1999

Final Date: 5/10/1999

Direct Final Publication Date: 7/20/2009

(and start of 30 day comment period)

Final Deletion Date: 9/18/2009

Location: The 17 acre site is located in an unincorporated area in East Feliciana Parish, Louisiana. The site is near the town of Slaughter, Louisiana. The site is divided by State Hwy 959.

Population: The nearby population is sparse; however, a few residents live along the northwest boundary of the site.

Setting: The facility is an inactive and abandoned wood preserving facility that was in operation from the 1950s to 1991. The facility process included the use of creosote, copper oxide, chromic acid, and arsenic acid.

Photos: [Before and After](#)

Principal Pollutants: Arsenic, copper, chromium and creosote.

Health Considerations:

The human health risk assessment concluded that there were elevated health risks associated with arsenic involved in the former wood preserving operations. By addressing the human health risks, the ecological risks were also addressed.

Record of Decision (ROD)

The ROD was issued on April 5, 2001.

Main cleanup components of the ROD included:

- Thermal Desorption - Approximately 28,260 cubic yards of contaminated soil and sediment were excavated from the site. Of this amount, approximately 9,200 cubic yards were treated on-site via thermal desorption to address the creosote contamination. The remaining ash from the thermal desorption as well as the approximately 19,800 cubic yards of arsenic contaminated soil/sediment were sent offsite to a Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) Subtitle C hazardous waste facility.
- Buildings and debris piles - Buildings and debris piles that prevent equipment from excavating contaminated soil were sent off-site for disposal.

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